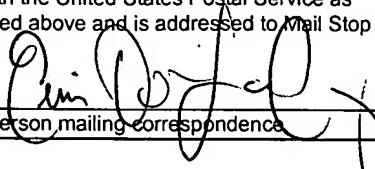


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jack W. Szostak et al. Art Unit:  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned Examiner:  
Filed: January 26, 2004 Customer No.: 21559  
Title: SELECTION OF PROTEINS USING RNA-PROTEIN FUSIONS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, kindly amend the application as follows.